

APR 24 2006

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To: Mail Stop RCE  
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Fax No.: (571) 273-8300  
From: George M. Macdonald  
Date: April 24, 2006  
Subject: Serial No.: 09/683,417  
Pages: 3 (including this cover)

Pitney Bowes Inc.

Senior Corporate Counsel  
Intellectual Property & Technology Law  
35 Waterview Drive  
P.O. Box 3000  
Shelton, CT 06484-8000  
203-924-3180  
203-924-3919 Fax  
George.Macdonald@pb.com  
www.pitneybowes.com

Re: U.S. Patent Application Serial No.: 09/683,417  
Confirmation No.: 2989  
Our Docket # F-428

Enclosed please find a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) transmittal requesting consideration of the last Amendment dated March 24, 2006. Both the RCE fee and an Extension of Time fee for the above referenced application should be deducted from the deposit account shown on the transmittal.

**CERTIFICATION OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION**

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1. Request for Continued Examination (RCE) transmittal (1 page) + 1 copy.

on April 24, 2006  
Date of Transmission

George M. Macdonald  
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Reg. No.: 39,284

  
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April 24, 2006  
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PTO/SB/30 (04-05)

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**Request  
for  
Continued Examination (RCE)  
Transmittal**Address to:  
Mail Stop RCE  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Application Number	09/683,417
Filing Date	December 24, 2001
First Named Inventor	Denis J. Stammle
Art Unit	3877
Examiner Name	William L. Miller
Attorney Docket Number	F-428

**This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114 of the above-identified application.**  
Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8, 1995, or to any design application. See Instruction Sheet for RCEs (not to be submitted to the USPTO) on page 2.

1. **Submission required under 37 CFR 1.114** Note: If the RCE is proper, any previously filed unentered amendments and amendments enclosed with the RCE will be entered in the order in which they were filed unless applicant instructs otherwise. If applicant does not wish to have any previously filed unentered amendment(s) entered, applicant must request non-entry of such amendment(s).
- a. ☒ Previously submitted. If a final Office action is outstanding, any amendments filed after the final Office action may be considered as a submission even if this box is not checked.
- I. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on \_\_\_\_\_
- II. ☒ Other 3/24/06 Amendment
- b. ☐ Enclosed
- I. ☐ Amendment/Reply
- II. ☐ Affidavit(s)/ Declaration(s)
- III. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
- IV. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_
2. **Miscellaneous**
- a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 CFR 1.103(c) for a period of \_\_\_\_\_ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 CFR 1.17(f) required)
- b. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_
3. **Fees**
- The RCE fee under 37 CFR 1.17(e) is required by 37 CFR 1.114 when the RCE is filed.
- The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, any underpayment of fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 16-1885. I have enclosed a duplicate copy of this sheet.
- a. ☒
- I. ☒ RCE fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(e)
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- III. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_
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**SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED**

Signature		Date	April 24, 2006
Name (Print/Type)	George M. Macdonald	Registration No.	39,284

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This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.114. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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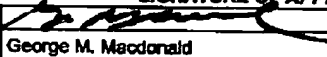
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